

CONFIDENTIAL.]

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REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 26th May 1888.

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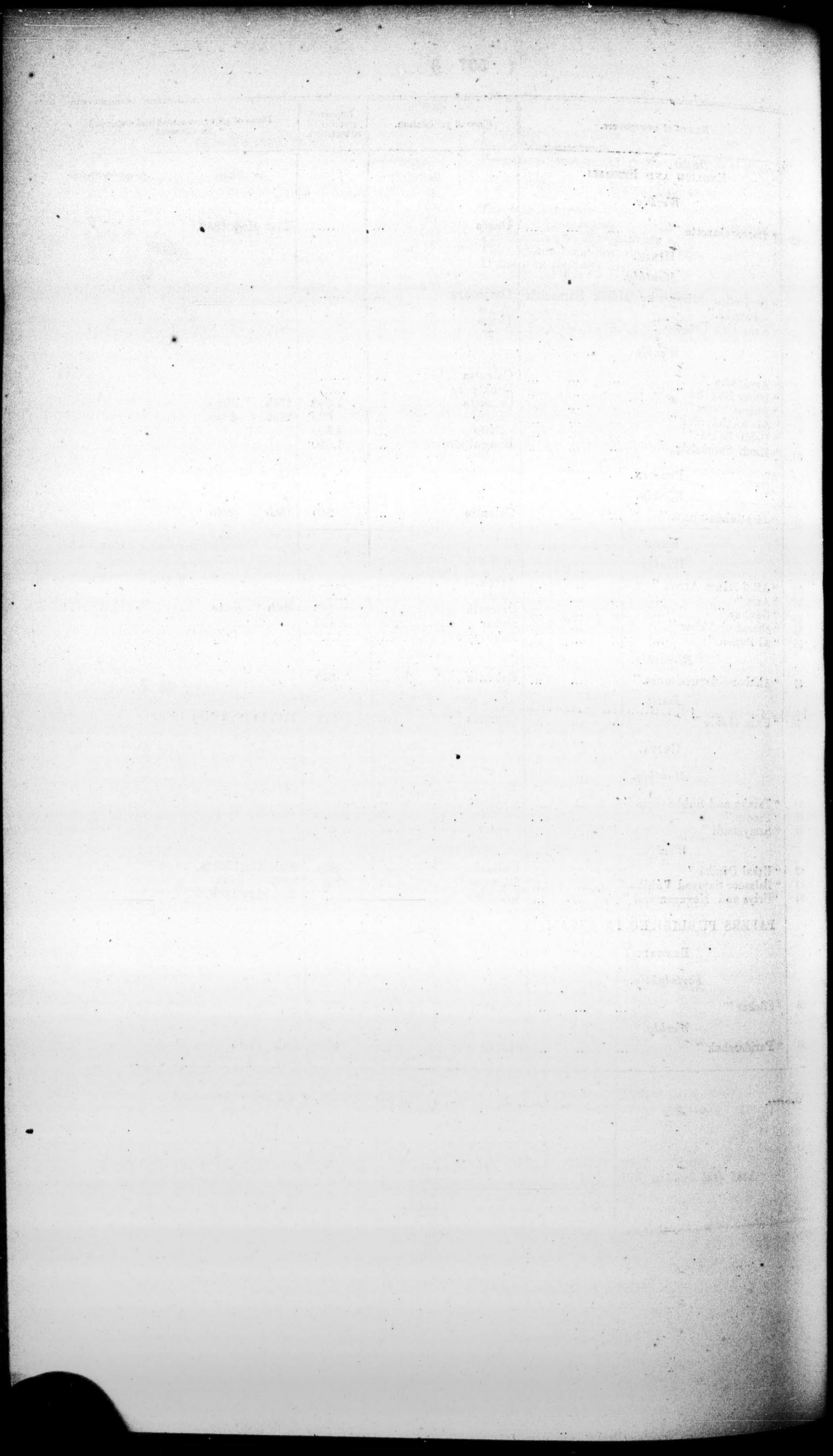
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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	" Ahammadi "	Tangail, Mymensingh.	.....
2	" Kasipore Nibási "	Kasipore, Burrisal	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	" Ave Maria "	Calcutta	....
4	" Chandra Vilásh "	Berhampore	....
5	" Divákar "	Calcutta	....
6	" Gaura Duta "	Maldah	....
7	" Grambásí "	Uluberia	....
8	" Púrva Bangabásí "	Noakhally	....
9	" Purva Darpan "	Chittagong	700	
10	" Uttara Banga Hitaishi "	Mahiganj, Rungpore	....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
11	" Apurva Dhan "	Calcutta	....
12	" Arya Darpan "	Ditto	102	11th ditto.
13	" Bangabásí "	Ditto	20,000	19th ditto.
14	" Burdwán Sanjívaní "	Burdwan	302	15th ditto.
15	" Cháruvártá "	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	14th ditto.
16	" Chattal Gazette "	Chittagong	....	14th May 1888.
17	" Dacca Prakásh "	Dacca	450	20th ditto.
18	" Dhumaketu "	Chandernagore	....
19	" Education Gazette "	Hooghly	825	18th ditto.
20	" Garib "	Dacca	....
21	" Hindu Ranjiká "	Beauleah, Rajshahye	200	16th ditto.
22	" Jagatbásí "	Calcutta	....	17th ditto.
23	" Murshidábád Patriká "	Berhampore	508	18th ditto.
24	" Murshidábád Pratinidhi "	Ditto	....	18th ditto.
25	" Navavibhákar Sádháraní "	Calcutta	1,000	21st ditto.
26	" Prajá Bandhu "	Chandernagore	995	18th ditto.
27	" Pratikár "	Berhampore	600	18th ditto.
28	" Rungpore Dik Prakásh "	Kakiná, Rungpore	205	10th ditto.
29	" Sahachar "	Calcutta	500	16th ditto.
30	" Samaya "	Ditto	2,350	18th ditto.
31	" Sanjivani "	Ditto	4,000	19th ditto.
32	" Sansodhini "	Chittagong	800	11th ditto.
33	" Saráswat Patra "	Dacca	400	
34	" Som Prakásh "	Calcutta	1,000	
35	" Srimanta Saudagár "	Ditto	....
36	" Sulabha Samáchár and Kusadaha "	Ditto	3,000	18th ditto.
37	" Surabhi and Patáká "	Ditto	700	17th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
38	" Dainik and Samachár Chandriká "	Calcutta	7,000	22nd ditto.
39	" Samvád Prabhákar "	Ditto	200	18th to 22nd May 1888.
40	" Samvád Punachandrodaya "	Ditto	300	
41	" Banga Vidyá Prakáshika "	Ditto	500	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.			
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.							
<i>Weekly.</i>							
42	" <i>Dacca Gazette</i> "	Dacca	...	.....	21st May 1888.
HINDI.							
<i>Monthly.</i>							
43	" <i>Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Sámachár Patriká</i> "	Darjeeling	...	.....	
44	" <i>Kshatriya Pratiká</i> "	Patna	...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>							
45	" <i>Aryávarta</i> "	Calcutta	...	.....	
46	" <i>Behar Bandhu</i> "	Bankipore	...	.....	
47	" <i>Bhárat Mitra</i> "	Calcutta	...	1,500	17th ditto.		
48	" <i>Sár Sudhánidhi</i> "	Ditto	...	500	21st ditto.		
49	" <i>Uchit Baktá</i> "	Ditto	...	4,500			
50	" <i>Hindi Samáchár</i> "	Bhagulpore	...	1,000			
PERSIAN.							
<i>Weekly.</i>							
51	" <i>Jám-Jahán-numá</i> "	Calcutta	...	250	18th ditto.		
URDU.							
<i>Weekly.</i>							
52	" <i>Aftal Alum Arrah</i> "	Arrah	...	.....	
53	" <i>Anis</i> "	Patna	...	.....	
54	" <i>Gauhur</i> "	Calcutta	...	196	20th ditto.		
55	" <i>Sharaf-ul-Akbar</i> "	Behar	...	150			
56	" <i>Al Punch</i> "	Bankipore	...	.....	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>							
57	" <i>Akhbar-i-darusaltanat</i> "	Calcutta	...	340			
<i>Daily.</i>							
58	" <i>Urdu Guide</i> "	Calcutta	...	212	17th to 22nd May 1888.		
URIYA.							
<i>Monthly.</i>							
59	" <i>Taraka and Subhavártá</i> "	Cuttack	...	.....	
60	" <i>Pradíp</i> "	Ditto	...	.....	
61	" <i>Samyabadi</i> "	Ditto	...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>							
62	" <i>Utkal Dípiká</i> "	Cuttack	...	200	28th April 1888.		
63	" <i>Balasore Samvad Váhika</i> "	Balasore	...	205	26th ditto.		
64	" <i>Uriya and Navasamvád</i> "	Balasore	...	.....	2nd May 1888.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.							
BENGALI.							
<i>Fortnightly.</i>							
65	" <i>Silchar</i> "	Silchar	...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>							
66	" <i>Paridarshak</i> "	Silchar	...	450	14th ditto.		



I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Surabhi* and *Pataká*, of the 17th May, cannot say what truth there is in the report that the Thibetans have assembled a large force near Lingtu, which they intend to attack on the approach of favourable weather. But it appears that the writer's apprehension, long since entertained, that the Sikkim affair will lead to a collision between Thibet and the British Government, will, after all, be realised.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 17th, 1888.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. A correspondent of the *Cháru Vártá*, of the 14th May, says that one Sadu Sheik, son of Khudu Mal of Char A suspicious death in Mymensingh. Sherpore, suddenly died under suspicious circumstances. The Sub-Inspector of the Sherpore thana made inquiries about the death, but Khudu Mal and his wife were dissatisfied with the inquiry, and have applied to the Deputy Magistrate of Jamalpore for another inquiry. Numerous complaints are heard against the Sub-Inspector of Police in connection with this case, and it is rumoured that the Inspector of Police will be deputed to make fresh inquiries. The District Superintendent of Police is requested to look to the matter.

CHARUVARTA,
May 14th, 1888.

3. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th May, says that dacoities have of late become very common in the district of Hooghly. Dacoity in the district of Hooghly. Hooghly, and notices, by way of illustration, a case of dacoity of the old type at Bahera, a village near Konnagar, in the vicinity of Calcutta. These dacoities occurring, as they do, almost within hailing distance of Calcutta will mar the reputation of the Hooghly Police, and especially of the Serampore Police, which ought to find out the perpetrators thereof. Will Mr. Veasey concern himself only with secret circulars, popular political awakenings, and the prestige of his department?

SAHACHAR,
May 16th, 1888.

4. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 20th May, sees no reason why the Kotwali at Dacca should be removed elsewhere. The Kotwali at Dacca. In the first place, situated as the Kotwali is in the busiest and most crowded part of the town of Dacca, nothing can be urged against its present site. In the second place, its removal will cost Government a good deal of money in the purchase of land and in the construction of a building. So, after all, Government will find it more economical to keep the Kotwali where it is and to repair the damages which it has sustained in the late storm than to remove it elsewhere.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 20th, 1888.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

5. The *Rungpore Dik Prakásh*, of the 10th May, protests against the sentence passed on the Printer, Publisher, and Manager of the *Chattal Gazette* by the Magistrate of Chittagong on the alleged ground of his not having made the prescribed declaration before the Magistrate under Act XXV of 1867. If the facts in this connection be as they are stated in the *Chattal Gazette*, the writer does not know in what language he should characterise a Magistrate and an amlah so malicious and intriguing, and people will have cause to be alarmed if the dispenser of justice makes use of such trifling pretexts to get himself avenged. Government is requested to call for the papers of the case, and to inquire whether what the *Chattal Gazette* says is true or not.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
May 10th, 1888.

SAHACHAR,
May 16th, 1888.

The Tangail case.

the Tangail case :—

According to the High Court, the Police Sub-Inspector Ram Kumar committed no offence by simply threatening to enter the zenana of Jahnvi Chaudhurani. After such an expression of the High Court's opinion, the police may justly be expected to indulge more freely in such oppressive acts as threatening to break open zenanas, &c. This is really very alarming.

The High Court says it cannot believe that the police ever commits oppression publicly. Now, the result of this expression of the High Court's opinion will be to ensure the rejection as false of all future prosecutions against the police for acts of oppression publicly committed by it. So on this point, too, the decision of the High Court is really alarming. The High Court's finding that it was no business of Ram Kumar's to enquire whether the orders he received from the Deputy Magistrate were legal or illegal, for in either case he was bound to carry them out, is open to grave objection, and is also of an alarming nature.

Again, the High Court says that Jahnvi Chaudhurani's amlah are men of bad character, and it therefore behoved the police and the Deputy Magistrate to keep a sharp eye upon them. But supposing they are bad men, were the police and the Deputy Magistrate justified in oppressing them even when they had committed no offence?

As regards the Government, it has, by supporting the Police and the Executive against the public in this case, endeavoured to uphold the prestige of its officers. But it ought to bear in mind that a policy of repression of this nature, though it may uphold the prestige of its officers, will certainly fail to ensure the safety of the empire against popular disaffection.

SANJIVANI,
May 19th, 1888]

7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th May, is glad to find that the Baboo Mahendra Chandra Mazumdar, Deputy Magistrate of Kissore-gunge. Lieutenant-Governor has transferred Baboo Mahendra Chandra Mazumdar, the Sub-divisional Officer of Kissoregunge, to the

Sudder station of Fureedpore. It appears from what is stated in the newspapers, and from the last annual report of the Divisional Commissioner, that Mahendra Baboo is unfit to hold the charge of a sub-division. The writer therefore thanks the Lieutenant-Governor for transferring him from Kissoregunge.

DACCA GAZETTE,
May 21st, 1888.

8. A correspondent of the *Dacca Gazette*, of the 21st May, requests The Brahmanbaria Munsifi.

Sarada Baboo, the new Munsif of Brahmanbaria, to supervise the work of his office more carefully than his predecessors did. On account of the lax supervision of his predecessors, parties were put to trouble by the amlah, and great irregularity prevailed in the sheristah. A large number of sale certificates are lying in his office for a long time, and have not as yet been given to the proper parties. Sarada Baboo is also requested to inquire into the condition of the apprentices in his office.

(d)—*Education.*

CHARUVARTA,
May 14th, 1888.

9. The *Cháruvártá*, of the 14th May, is glad that Sir Alfred Baboo Gopi Mohan Basak of Dacca. Croft has passed a censure on the conduct of Baboo Gopi Mohan Basak, the Headmaster of the East Bengal School, Dacca. This will have a deterrent effect on other teachers in Dacca, who, like Gopi Mohan Baboo, admit boys into their schools in contravention of the inter-school rules.

10. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 15th May, says that, before issuing his order in the Madras Christian College case, the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, should have carefully enquired

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1888.

into the cause of the disturbance and heard the boys in their defence. As it is, the Director's order is inconsistent with the policy of religious neutrality pursued by the Government in this country. Suppose a boy does not like to read in that College on account of its being a Missionary Institution, will the Director be right in excluding him from other institutions too?

11. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th May, says that, by supporting the Missionaries against the students of the Madras Christian College, the Madras Director of Public Instruction has done a

SAHACHAR,
May 16th, 1888.

very wrong thing. It is said that his action in this matter was taken without the knowledge of Government. If so, he ought to be taught a good lesson; and such a lesson, it is hoped, Lord Bourke will not fail to give him.

12. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 17th May, says that, by treating their Hindu pupils severely, and by leaving

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 17th, 1888.

those teachers unpunished who wounded the religious feelings of the boys by making taunting and uncalled for reflections on the Hindu religion, the authorities of the Madras Christian College have done a very wrong thing. So long as Messrs. Laidlaw and Patterson, who vilified Hinduism, and thereby excited the anger and indignation of the boys, remain unpunished, the boys should make it a point not to tread even the precincts of the College.

13. The *Pratikáá*, of the 18th May, sees nothing to object to in the *Bangabasi's* articles on the subject of text-books.

PRATIKAA,
May 18th, 1888.

14. The *Murshedabad Patriká*, of the 18th May, condemns the action of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, in interfering in the recent disturbances in the Madras Christian College.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
May 18th, 1888.

The Director of Public Instruction, Madras. The order passed by him has been very unjust. The plea of discipline on which the order has been passed cannot stand in this present case, for the boys were not guilty of either insubordination or rebellion, and the future of these boys will be blasted if the Director's order is not cancelled. The boys have done well in making such a display of moral courage.

15. The *Sulabh Samáchár and Kushdaha*, of the 18th May, says that Sir Alfred Croft's proposal to hold the University examinations in the middle of February is a good one.

SULABH SAMACHAR
AND KUSHDAHA,
May 18th, 1888.

The University Examinations. The text-book question. 16. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 18th May, thus returns to the subject of the selection of text-books by the native Inspectors of Schools in Bengal:—

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 18th, 1888.

The *Bangabáási*, as well as the *Dainik*, must be aware that the selection of text-books rests in the first place with a Committee appointed for the purpose, called the Central Text-book Committee. This Committee has several members who have no connection with the Education Department, and who are besides noted for their independence. If books were selected on a wrong principle, surely these men would protest against it. But that they have not hitherto protested is the best proof that no such irregularity as is complained of by the *Bangabáási* and the *Dainik* exists in connection with the selection of text-books.

Again, the charge that no books, however good, written by men outside the Education Department, are selected as text-books, is a false charge. For a book on Indian History, written by Mr. R. C. Dutt, an executive officer of Government, and a book on Geology, written by Baboo Pramath Nath Basu, an officer in the Survey Department, are read in the schools. If, however, the *Bangabasi* and the *Dainik* mean by making this charge that books like the *Model Bhagini* and the *Panchu Thakur*, written by themselves, have no place in the list of text-books, the Inspectors must plead guilty to the charge. In all seriousness, it is a fact that the books selected as text-books for schools are the best books of their kind.

BANGABASI,
May 19th, 1888.

BANGABASI.

17. Referring to the order passed by the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, in connection with the recent

The Madras Missionary College disturbances at the Madras Christian College,

the *Bangabasi*, of the 19th May, says that the boys who behaved as they did only in defence of their religion have been most unjustly dealt with, and that the Director of Public Instruction should be taught a lesson for the anti-Hindu exhibition he has made.

18. The same paper says that independent and deserving men do not write school-books, because they cannot stoop to flattery, in order to get their books

introduced into schools. Cannot Babu Bankim Chandra Chatterjee write good school-books if he is so minded? He does not belong to the Education Department, but there can be no gainsaying that he can write good school-books.

And there are other men equally able to write good school-books. But they do not write, simply because they cannot persuade themselves to flatter the Educational officers to give currency to their books.

It is also unfair to purchase books by the same authors year after year from the primary fund for distribution as prizes to pathsala boys, and an inspecting officer will incur opprobrium in proportion as his books are purchased for prize distribution. If the inspecting officer be the chief inspecting officer his conduct will be reprehensible beyond measure.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

GAURA DUTA,
May 14th, 1888.

19. The *Gaura Duta*, of the 14th May, says that most of the inhabitants of Old Maldah use the water of

The Old Maldah Municipality.

the tanks called the Dharma Kunda and the

Babakar; but people pollute the water of those tanks by washing foul clothes therein, and by easing themselves on their banks. The Chairman of the Old Maldah Municipality is requested to prevent the fouling of these tanks in this way.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 15th, 1888.

The District Board of Burdwan.

prevailing in the District Board of Burdwan of accepting tenders for work before preparing estimates of its own.

20. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 15th May, condemns the practice Union Committees.

prevailing in the District Board of Burdwan of accepting tenders for work before preparing estimates of its own.

21. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 16th May, referring to the circular letter addressed by Sir Steuart Bayley to the Commissioners of the Presidency, Dacca, and Burdwan Divisions, directing them to organise Union Committees of the type sketched in Mr. Westmacott's report, says that Local Self-Government in this country will prove a success if Union Committees are properly formed, and for such success Sir Steuart Bayley will be entitled to the heartfelt gratitude of the people of this country.

22. Some rate-payers of the Rampore Beauleah Municipality, writing to the same paper, complain that the present Chairman and Vice-Chairman of that Municipality have subjected poor people to great

The Rampore Beauleah Municipality.

hardship by not allowing them to repair their thatched houses with straw. They also complain that whilst poor people, not complying with this rule, are being prosecuted, some rich residents of Ward No. 5 and Masterpara are thatching houses with straw without opposition.

23. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 19th May, has heard that, in reply to the Municipal circular, the

The Julpigoree Municipality.

Deputy Commissioner of Julpigoree has reported that the Julpigoree Municipality is not yet ripe for the elective system. If this be true, it may be unhesitatingly stated that the Deputy Commissioner knows nothing about that station. Has the Deputy Commissioner forgotten that a large number of people petitioned the Divisional Commissioner last year for the introduction of the elective system into the Julpigoree Municipality?

24. A correspondent of the same paper says that there are privies around all the tanks at Bhowanipore, and the filth therefrom often flows into those tanks.

The sanitary condition of Bhowanipore. The Municipal authorities, instead of preventing this, themselves do things whereby the discharge of the filth into the tanks is facilitated. This insanitary feature of Bhowanipore must account for the repeated outbreaks of cholera in its Kansaripara section.

25. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 20th May, relates the following story for the purpose of showing how the Commissioners of the Dacca Municipality do their work:—

The Commissioners of the Dacca Municipality. After the storm which lately visited Dacca, the Municipal authorities proclaimed by beat of drum that those whose houses had been destroyed might build new ones without making any reference to the Municipality as required by the law. And a man did thereupon build a house without taking the permission of the Municipality. But the Municipality hauled him up before the Magistrate and he was punished. On the matter being enquired into by Baboo Raghunath Das, one of the Commissioners who wanted to know why this unjust prosecution had been instituted by the Municipality, he was told that there had been no prosecution! How extraordinary this! This shows that the Municipal Commissioners of Dacca either do not, or cannot, do their work properly.

(f)—*Questions affecting the land.*

26. The *Surabhi and Pataka*, of the 17th May, says that the Government

The agricultural inquiry.

of India, if it is really anxious to ascertain the condition of the agricultural population of India, should appoint a Commission for the purpose. There is no chance of the truth being known, if the enquiry is left in the hands of the Provincial Governments.

27. The *Samaya*, of the 18th May, is glad to hear that Government

The agricultural inquiry.

contemplates appointing a Committee to enquire into the condition of the agricultural population of India, and remarks that, if the Committee is not to be a failure like the Finance Committee, its members ought to be knowing, honest, and conscientious men. By appointing this Committee, Lord Dufferin will lay the people of India under deep obligation.

28. Referring to the proposed inquiry into the condition of the

The agricultural inquiry.

Indian agriculturists, the *Pratikar*, of the 18th May, observes that there is no need of making a formal inquiry with the view of ascertaining what is already so well known. The poverty of the people of India is owing to the selfish policy pursued by the English Government in India. Government knows this, and yet it is going to make fussy inquiry!

SANJIVANI,
May 19th, 1888.

SANJIVANI.

DACCA PRAKASH,
May 20th, 1888.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 17th, 1888.

SAMAYA,
May 18th, 1888.

PRATIKAR,
May 18th, 1888.

SANJIVANI,
May 19th, 1888.

29. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th May, praises Lord Dufferin for expressing a desire to enquire into the condition of the agricultural classes of India before he leaves India. But why should an enquiry on such an important subject be conducted secretly? Again, the Local Governments have been asked to send in their reports by the 1st of June, as the Viceroy desires to deal personally with the subject before he leaves India. But would it be possible to come to a sound conclusion on so very large and important a subject in so short a time?

(b)---General.

SANSODHINI,
May 11th, 1888.

30. The *Sansodhini*, of the 11th May, says that persons who remit small sums of money, say even eight annas or one rupee, by money-orders are required to pay two annas as money-order fee. This is hardly fair. Formerly, when postal notes were in circulation, only two pice per rupee had to be paid as commission. The writer therefore suggests that Government should remove a real public grievance by prescribing a money-order fee of only one anna up to a certain sum below Rs. 10.

BHARAT MITRA,
May 17th, 1888.

31. The *Bharat Mitra*, of the 17th May, says that natives are now filling many posts under Government with distinction. Why should they be then deprived of other posts under Government? Indeed, Government should appoint natives more largely to posts which are now held by Europeans. It is the duty of Government to give the natives greater facilities for entering the public service.

SAMAYA,
May 18th, 1888.

Coolie oppression.

India :—

"Englishmen, was it not you who girded up your loins in stern determination to abolish slave trade? and was it not you who condemned that slave trade as a relic of barbarism? But, alas, what is this that is taking place here in India? Who are the authors of the Coolie Act? Under whose rule is another slave trade flourishing and the lives of human beings are being sold for fixed terms? Have you not, Englishmen, brought discredit on your name by framing a law in favour of the planters and by not putting any check on the deceitful practices of the coolie-recruiters? We will not answer this question ourselves, but ask you to interrogate your own conscience on this point, and to hear what it says." Reference is then made to the memorial on the subject of coolie oppression addressed to Lord Dufferin by Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee as Secretary to the Indian Association, and the hope is expressed that His Excellency will appoint a Commission, consisting of members noted for their independence, to enquire into the condition of the coolies in the tea-gardens, and into the system under which they are recruited. The importance of the subject demands such an enquiry.

SANJIVANI,
May 19th, 1888.

33. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th May, requests the Government of India to appoint a Commission to inquire into the charges brought by the Indian Association against the tea-planters of Assam.

SANJIVANI.

34. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the high-handed proceedings of the Income-tax Deputy Collector of Julpigoree. He required Begum Jagadiswari Debi of Julpigoree, whose lease of the Baikuntapore oil factory expired at the end of the Bengali year 1293, to pay income-tax upon her

income from that forest for 1294 B.S. also. The Bani objected to this demand, but her objection was disallowed, and he levies the tax from persons whose annual income amounts to Rs. 456, and who reside within the Jalpigoree Municipality, if the annual rent of their dwelling-houses and their annual income together amount to Rs. 500.

35. The *Navavibhákar Sádháraní*, of the 21st May, says that the petition of the Indian Association, praying for an

Coolie oppression.

enquiry into the subject of the oppression of

coolies, is so weighty that Government ought not in fairness to deal lightly with it. Lord Dufferin will remove a great blot on the English administration, as well as secure immortality for himself, if he can diminish coolie oppression before he leaves this country.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 21st, 1888.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

36. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 17th May, thanks the three native members of the Bengal Council for

The native members of the Bengal Council.

having fought so manfully against the Calcutta Municipal Bill, and says that their

failure in the fight has shown that they can be of no use to the country by being where they are. They should therefore accept the advice of the *Indian Mirror* and resign their seats in the Council, thereby giving Government to understand that they cannot consent to remain in the Council simply for ornamental purposes and wasting their own valuable time in useless discussions.

37. The *Sanjivani*, of the 19th May, says that the chief defect of the new Calcutta Municipal Bill is that it grants

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

the elective right to certain Anglo-Indian

Associations. And the plea upon which this is done is that the material prosperity of Calcutta greatly depends upon its European trade. This is true, but not wholly. For everybody knows that the trade of Calcutta is carried on, not by Anglo-Indian merchants alone, but also by native merchants.

38. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 21st May, says that Government

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

has done a very wrong thing by ignoring the interests of the native merchants in favour of

those of the European merchants in the Calcutta Municipal Bill. The natives have indeed been deprived of many valuable privileges, while the Europeans have been granted rights which they did not possess before.

39. The *Navavibhákar Sádháraní*, of the 21st May, says that it has

The Calcutta Municipal Bill.

all along been urged by the officials that in

framing a municipal law for Calcutta the interests of English merchants should be principally consulted, because the prosperity of the town depends upon its trade. And this plea is put forth in such a way as to convey the impression that the improvement of trade in Calcutta is entirely due to English merchants. But one who is not thoroughly ignorant of these matters must know that of the capital invested in the trade of Calcutta by far the largest portion belongs to the natives. English factories and firms are, in many cases, maintained with native money. Native banians supply many English merchants with capital. Again, English firms in this country have large transactions with natives. The number of native merchants and native traders is also far larger than that of the English merchants and English traders; and yet English merchants have been allowed to return members to the Municipality, while native merchants have been denied that privilege. Is not this one-sidedness?

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 17th, 1888.

SANJIVANI,
May 19th, 1888.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 21st, 1888.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 21st, 1888.

In his reply to the contention that the provisions of the Municipal Bill relating to overcrowding in houses, and taking certain classes of sick people to hospital, will tend to break social ties among the Hindus, the Lieutenant-Governor has said that the Hindus will get accustomed to these changes, as they have got accustomed to the abolition of *suttee*, to railway travelling, to the prosecution of medical studies, and to the use of filtered water. But His Honour has failed to notice a very important point which distinguishes the present case from those cited by him by way of analogy. Is it likely that people attacked with infectious diseases will receive as good attention in a hospital as they are likely to do at home from their own relations and friends? Again, serious disturbances will arise if attempts are made to carry sick Hindu or Mussulman females to hospitals. It is with the view of preventing such disturbances that the law authorising the imprisonment of female debtors has been repealed. Again, practices like *suttee* can be put down by legislation; but will legislation prevent the spread of infectious diseases?

The new law will press heavily upon owners of houses. Englishmen live for the most part in rented houses, whether here or in England. They are, therefore, under the impression that it is rich people alone that build houses. But the case is very different in India. Here, every man endeavours to make a house for himself, however small. And that is why, in India, people possessed even of very small means, not only practise most rigid economy, but subject themselves even to privations for the sake of having some money to build a house. Acting upon this principle, many people in Calcutta build small houses with materials supplied to them on credit, and the price of which is paid by them in small instalments out of their monthly earnings. To the poor and middle class owners of houses of this description, the assessment clauses of the new municipal law will be nothing short of a disaster.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SAHACHAR,
May 16th, 1888.

40. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th May, says that there is nothing to wonder at in the report that Mr. Plowden, Mr. Plowden and the affairs of the Resident at Cashmere, has opposed the Cashmere. Maharaja's re-appointment of Babu Nilambar

Mukerjee and Dr. Surajbal as advisers to his durbar. For it was Mr. Plowden who made Nilambar Babu retire from Cashmere, and it is most natural that he should now oppose his re-appointment. That the Maharaja is anxious to get Nilambar Babu back is also probable enough. For His Highness knows well that the present mismanagement in his State is owing to the retirement of his ex-Minister.

URDU GUIDE,
May 17th, 1888.

41. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 17th May, says that the British Government is bound by treaty and friendly considerations to inquire into the existing state of things in Hyderabad. The Hyderabad officials are looting that State, and it is high time that the Government of India should interfere.

SAMAYA,
May 18th, 1888.

42. The *Samaya*, of the 18th May, thinks that if the *Eastern Herald*'s statement be true, it must be admitted that the Maharajah of Holkar's administration has been much maligned by Anglo-Indian writers. The Maharajah's recent misunderstanding with Sir Lepel Griffin is probably the cause of these gratuitous attacks on his administration by the Anglo-Indian press. Government should therefore make an impartial enquiry before taking any steps in connection with the administration of the Indore State.

As to the rumour that Dr. Aghore Nath Chatterjee will be appointed Dewan in Indore, it is not likely, considering the hostile attitude of the

Anglo-Indians towards educated Bengalis, and the bad grace in which the doctor himself is held by the Government, that the doctor, even if he gets the post, will be able to retain it long.

43. The *Bangabasi*, of the 19th May, has seen some Anglo-Indian editors say that Nepal, which will suffer if

Nepal a direct trade route to Thibet is opened, is inciting the Thibetans to make war with the English; but this is certainly a wrong charge to bring against Nepal, and the bringing of it only means that the Anglo-Indian editors desire that Nepal should be ruined along with Thibet.

44. The same paper has heard a rumour to the effect that the Maharajah of Cashmere is willing to take

Dr. Surya Bal and Baboo Nilambar Mukerjee again into his service, but Mr. Plowden, the Resident, is opposed to his doing so. Now, if it be true that Mr. Plowden is not allowing the Maharajah to take back those two men, serious blame must attach to him, and the Viceroy and the Government too will incur grave opprobrium if, following Mr. Plowden's advice in this matter, they prevent the Maharajah from having those officers upon whom he can rely for the restoration of order in his State.

BANGABASI.
May 19th, 1888.

BANGABASI.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

45. The *Sansodhini*, of the 11th May, reports the prevalence of cholera at Chittagong.

cholera of a virulent type in the Chittagong town and in the neighbouring villages. A large number of the residents of Feringhibazar, Patharghatta, Baxirhat, Chabazar and other places have been carried off by cholera, and more are still dying for want of medical aid. The Municipal Commissioners and the members of the Chittagong District Board have paid no attention to the matter. The private medical practitioner of Chittagong has left the town, and there remains only one Government doctor there, and he cannot certainly attend to all the cases. The writer is glad to learn that Mr. Lyall, the Commissioner, has reported to Government that another Government doctor is necessary. Government is therefore requested to send another doctor as promptly as possible.

SANSODHINI,
May 11th, 1888.

SANJIVANI,
May 19th, 1888.

46. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 19th May, complains of scarcity of water in the Serampore sub-division. scarcity of water at Jungipore, Krishnagore, Madhubpore, Serampore, and other villages in the Serampore sub-division of the Hooghly district. It is hoped that the Sub-divisional Officer of Serampore will remove the grievance and stop the outbreak of cholera in those villages by admitting sufficient water into the Eden Canal.

47. A correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 19th May, says that Scarcity in Manbhum. the people of Malami, Chuaradihi, Sundaka, Rukmini, Uka, Baragaon, Tarapore, Gurudih, Bharatpore, Bhurkura, Manchuda, Dudhiapani, Belekhajura, Joraked, Bagraibari, Ajodhya, Kharikabad, Patharadanga, Getchara, Mulunga, Bhiringi, Ghuttora and Guniara, villages situated within pergunnahs Baliana and Chowrashi, are suffering most on account of the scarcity which now prevails in the Manbhum district. Government has not yet opened relief works, and many people are living on boiled leaves of trees; and yet some say that there is no scarcity in that district, because rice is selling there at 19 or 20 seers per rupee. They that say so do not know how very destitute these Manbhum cultivators are. Their crops failed partially in 1293 B.S. and completely in 1294 B.S., and this failure has been enough to

BANGABASI.
May 19th, 1888.

produce widespread starvation among them. So they must be too poor to buy rice which is selling at even 19 or 20 seers per rupee.

VI—MISCELLANEOUS.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
May 16th, 1888.

SAHACHAR,
May 16th, 1888.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
May 17th, 1888.

48. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 16th May, referring to the proposal made by Sir Roper Lethbridge in the *Asiatic Quarterly Review* for the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into Indian affairs, says that the Indians are now sick of Commissions, and an attempt should be made, if possible, to do something for India without appointing a Commission.

49. The *Sahachar*, of the 16th May, considers it very objectionable that public associations in England should be allowed to ask subscriptions from the Native Chiefs of India, and remarks that the Governor-General has done a very proper thing by rebuking one of these associations for requesting him to assist it in the raising of subscriptions from among the Indian Chiefs. The extreme injustice and unfairness of these requests for subscriptions become manifest, when it is considered that such requests, whether coming directly or through the Governor-General, are in every case looked upon by the Native Chiefs as orders which must be complied with. It is a most fortunate circumstance, therefore, that Lord Dufferin has now set his face against these demands on Native Chiefs. But could not His Excellency, before leaving this country, exercise his influence in putting an end to this practice once for all ?

50. The *Surabhi and Pataka*, of the 17th May, has the following on the Government order regarding the supply of camp women :—

“ Who could have dreamt that the Government, which spends lakhs of rupees every year in the maintenance of *padrees* for the purpose of bringing the people of this country into the light of Christianity, should defile itself by engaging in a disgraceful trade in camp women, and spend lots of money from its own treasury for the purpose of building houses for the accommodation of such women ? ”

“ Who could have thought that the officers of Government would be touring in the villages in order to induce poor ignorant villagers to part with their chaste daughters and sisters for *Mlechchha*’s use. O, the very thought is horrid ! ”

“ The practice complained of does not exist in any civilised country ; and if it had prevailed in any one of the Native States of India, Christian John Bull would surely have taken advantage of the circumstance to make short work of that State and its Chief. Englishmen ! What should we tell you ? Rest assured that you will never be able to elude the retribution which justice has reserved for you for this horrible sin of yours.”

SURABHI & PATAKA.

51. The same paper says that, while in the dépôt at Dhubri, coolies

The coolie dépôt at Dhubri.

are often insufficiently fed in order to cheat them out of their regulation quantity of food.

The agent puts a mug within the mug in which food is distributed to them, and the agent’s *chaprasis*, who distribute the food, also take care to leave a margin for themselves, so that between the agent and his *chaprasis* the poor coolie is almost starved.

2. The doctor attached to the dépôt prescribes good medicines for the coolies and generally tries his best to save their lives ; but for want of proper nursing and good medicines, mortality amongst the coolies is very high.

3. The *methers* attached to the coolie hospitals administer medicines to the coolies and throw their corpses into the river when they die. For this latter service they are paid two rupees for every corpse ; and in their desire to swell their earnings, they often throw the dying along with the dead into the river.

52. The *Samaya*, of the 18th May, referring to the Government orders regarding the supply of camp women, makes the following observations :—

Camp women.

The atrocity which is being perpetrated under that order has no parallel even in the atrocities of the cruel and licentious Seraj-ud-daula. In utter disregard of their duty to the people of this country, Englishmen are doing what even the voluptuous Mahomedan Emperors of India dared not to do. That Government itself is endeavouring to convert chaste women into prostitutes, O, the very thought is horrid ! The pamphlet entitled "Must India perish through Britain's Sin," written by the Revd. Mr. Dyer, reveals facts the perusal whereof is sufficient to send a thrill through the body and to make one's hair stand on end.

If Englishmen wish to be reckoned as one of the civilised nations of the world, if, as Christians, they want to uphold the glory of their religion, they should forthwith abandon a system which is calculated to ruin the honour of chaste women, and punish those men severely who will in any form or to any extent make use thereof.

53. The *Sulabh Samachar and Kushdaha*, of the 18th May, referring to the rumour that Sir Lepel Griffin will not

Sir Lepel Griffin.

Amrita Bazar Patrika, has attacked him so persistently that he will not dare to come back to India.

54. Referring to the recent prosecution of the *Chattal Gazette*, the *Pratikar*, of the 18th May, says that the prosecution was owing to the displeasure of the local officials whose wrong-doings were

exposed in the *Gazette*.

55. The *Bangabasi*, of the 19th May, says that a movement for the prevention of cow-slaughter has been

Cow-slaughter in India.

set on foot by the Hindus, Sikhs and Parsis. The *Saturday Review*, however, does not approve of this movement, and has indirectly advised Government not to listen to any prayer that may be made to it for the prevention of cow-slaughter ; but this is a very unwise advice. The two cases of cow-slaughter recently decided by the Allahabad High Court have given rise to bad feelings between the Hindus and the Mahomedans of that station. The Allahabad High Court has decided that a sacrificial bull is nobody's property, and that its slaughter for the purpose of food does not constitute an offence. Such a decision must wound the feelings of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains ; and it will only please the class of foolish officials who want to strengthen the British Empire in India by setting class against class. Such officers are, in fact, rebels against their own Government, and it is perhaps they that incite the Mahomedans against the Hindus on the occasion of the Mubarrum festival. These officers should be severely dealt with.

There is, in fact, no necessity for inciting the Mahomedans against the Hindus. For already there is no good feeling between these two peoples. And the existence of bad feeling between the different races inhabiting a country is a source of serious political danger to its rulers. Everybody knows that the decline of the Moghul Empire under Aurangzeb was owing to the embittered feelings which were evoked under that Emperor's rule between his Mahomedan and his Hindu subjects.

SAMAYA.
May 18th, 1888.

SULABH SAMACHAR &
KUSHDAHA,
May 18th, 1888.

PRATIKAR,
May 18th, 1888.

BANGABASI,
May 19th, 1888.

BANGABAN,
May 19th, 1888.

56. The same paper says that a Mahomedan appeared at Delhi the other day in the guise of a wandering fakir, and created quite a commotion among the Mahomedans of that place by proclaiming An aspirant to the throne of the Moghuls.

himself as follows:—"I am Rustami Doran Padshah Syed Imam Mehdi. I shall sit on the throne of the Moghul at Delhi." He, in fact, incited the Mahomedans against the British Government. All this is due to Syed Ahmed's notorious Lucknow speech, in which the following words are found:—"We, Mahomedans, held supremacy over India for six hundred years, and it is the English who have deprived us of that supremacy. Will Mahomedans ever forget this? Or will Englishmen ever trust them fully?" When Syed Ahmed attempted in this way to excite his co-religionists against Englishmen in this country it was predicted his speech would create disturbance among the Mahomedans. And the appearance of this fakir at Delhi shows that the prediction was correct.

SANJIVANI,
May 19th, 1888.

57. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 19th May, travelling in Assam, says that Mr. Kennedy, Assistant Commissioner, has been lately transferred to

Mr. Kennedy, Assistant Commissioner of Goalpara, Assam. Goalpara. Well, the house in which he resides stands on a hill; and this house Mrs. Kennedy wanted to inspect after the Assistant Commissioner's arrival at Goalpara. Mrs. Kennedy wanted to be borne up to the house on the shoulders of coolies. Mr. Kennedy gave orders accordingly for six municipal coolies; but the coolies called in—all Hindus—would not take the lady up on the ground of her being a *Melchchha*. Mr. Kennedy flew into a rage on hearing this, beat the coolies, and compelled them to take his wife up. On the next day the coolies expressed their desire before the Municipal Overseer to resign in a body. The Overseer reported this to Mr. Kennedy, who passed an order fining each coolie Rs. 2, and the Municipal Overseer his day's pay so long as he should be unable to procure coolies.

SANJIVANI.

58. A correspondent of the same paper says that the *hakims* of Government officers in Julpiguri are in the habit of accepting presents. Many illiterate men are obtaining high posts, and unworthy men are finding favour with the officers by making presents to them.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
May 21st, 1888.

59. The *Navavibhakar Sádháraní*, of the 21st May, says that Government maintains prostitutes for English soldiers in order to save the honour of respectable

women; and yet respectable women are being enticed away for the use of the soldiery. To rob a virtuous woman of her chastity by threats and inducements is a heinous sin, and Government ought not to commit such a sin. The real reason why Lord Dufferin refused to grant an interview to Mr. Dyer on the question of the maintenance of prostitutes for soldiers is that His Lordship feels ashamed to talk on such a subject. But the matter is really becoming serious. So a suggestion is made with the view of taking away the most objectionable feature of the practice, namely, robbing the virtuous of her virtue. English soldiers probably prefer English women to native women. Well, Mr. Stead says that a large number of English women is exported every year to France for the purpose of prostitution, and could not Government purchase those women for the English soldiers in this country? Natives, who satisfy so many unjust demands of the Government, will not grudge to pay some money if by so doing they can save the honour of their women.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI.

60. The same paper says that Sir Charles Aitchison is an ornament of the Indian Civil Service. The Indians would have fared better if there had been more officers of his type in India. By his departure from this country

India will be deprived of one of its best officers. The Indians pray that he may live long in sound health surrounded by his wife and children.

61. The same paper, referring to the intention of the Government of

India to locate the offices under it permanently at Simla, says that if this is done it

will go hard with its native clerks, who will

not be able to bear the intense cold of Simla in winter. It is also to be feared that this example will be gradually followed by the Provincial Governors.

URIYA PAPERS.

62. The *Utkal Dipiká*, of the 28th April, has learnt that the system of surveying lands in Angul through the agency of local men is working well.

63. The same paper regrets to find that Baboo Jagannath Misra, a native physician of Cuttack, was criminally prosecuted on the charge of having kept

in his possession eleven chittacks of country *ganja* leaves, and that, on being brought before a court of justice, he was honorably acquitted, the court observing in its judgment that the case was a suspicious and false one. It therefore observes that abkari officers should be more careful in future in the matter of subjecting gentlemen to criminal prosecutions.

64. The Commissioners of the Kendrapara Municipality in Cuttack having nominated Mr. Fraser, the Sub-divisional Officer of that place, their Chair-

man, this paper observes that they should have nominated some other gentleman from their body for the place in question, as that would have made them more independent of official influence.

65. The same paper does not approve of the arrangements that have been made in connection with the Land Registration Department of Cuttack by abolishing a certain number of the amlah, and by increasing the pay of the Sub-Deputy Collector in charge of the Department with the savings thus effected.

66. The *Uria and Nabasambád*, of the 2nd May, informs the public that the people of Baliapal thana, in Balasore district, are in great distress on account of the loss of their last rice-crop for want of seasonable rainfall. The zemindars of that part of the district had to borrow money to pay Government revenue, because their ryots were unable to pay rents.

ASSAM PAPERS.

67. The *Paridarshak*, of the 14th May, disapproves of Sir Steuart Bayley's resolution on the Tangail case.

The writer says that the High Court of to-day is not what it was before, and its decision in the Tangail case is not the first of its kind that the High Court has passed in these its latter days.

68. The same paper says that Mr. Posford, the Judge of Burrisal, should be at least transferred from that station in the interests of the public. He may commit more mischief if he is allowed to remain at Burrisal.

NAVAVIBHAKA
SADHARANI,
May 21st, 1888.

UTKAL DIPAKA,
April 28th, 1888

UTKAL DIPAKA.

UTKAL DIPAKA.

UTKAL DIPAKA.
May 2nd, 1888.

PARIDARSHAK,
May 14th, 1888.

PARIDARSHAK.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

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